

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 39 and 40 as set forth below.

1-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) Apparatus for use in outputting a voucher from a coin discriminator having a discriminator printer, with the voucher configured to assist in distinguishing unauthorized duplicate or counterfeit vouchers, comprising:

a thermal paper substrate having

at least first language printed on said thermal paper substrate, oriented in a first direction, using a fluorescent ink such that said first language has a first appearance on said thermal paper substrate but wherein a photocopy of first language has a second appearance, different from said first appearance;

at least second language printed on said thermal paper substrate oriented in a second direction about 90 degrees to said first direction positioned less than 0.25 inches from an edge of said thermal paper substrate;

a plurality of perforations in said thermal paper substrate defining a first curved pattern of microperforations which includes a region defining a radius of curvature;

said thermal paper substrate located in a position from which said thermal paper substrate can be fed to said discriminator printer; and

means for controlling said discriminator printer to print, on said thermal paper substrate, at least first indicia containing an indication of a value of said voucher.

22-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Withdrawn) A method for providing a voucher in a coin discriminator, the method comprising:

placing visible marks on a substrate with a marking medium, wherein the visible marks have a first appearance on the substrate, but wherein a photocopy of the visible marks has a second appearance, different from the first appearance;

in the coin discriminator, printing indicia on the substrate, wherein the indicia indicate a value; and

dispensing the printed substrate from the coin discriminator, wherein the printed substrate is redeemable for the value indicated by the indicia in exchange for at least one of cash and merchandise.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25, further comprising:

receiving a plurality of coins from a user; and

counting the coins to arrive at a total, wherein the value indicated by the indicia printed on the substrate is related to the total.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25, further comprising:

receiving a plurality of coins from a user; and

counting the coins to arrive at a total, wherein the value indicated by the indicia printed on the substrate is related to the total but is less than the total.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25, further comprising locating the coin discriminator in a retail establishment, wherein the voucher is redeemable for at least one of cash and merchandise in the retail establishment where the coin discriminator is located.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25 wherein printing indicia on the substrate includes printing a bar code on the substrate.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25 wherein printing indicia on the substrate includes printing an encrypted form of the value on the substrate.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25 wherein the substrate includes thermal paper.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25 wherein the marking medium includes fluorescent ink.

33. (Previously Presented) A voucher for use with a coin discriminator, the voucher comprising:

a substrate;

a visible mark placed on the substrate, wherein the visible mark has a first appearance on the substrate, but wherein a photocopy of the visible mark has a second appearance, different from the first appearance; and
indicia printed on the substrate, wherein the indicia indicate a value for which the printed substrate can be redeemed in exchange for at least one of cash and merchandise.

34. (Previously Presented) The voucher of claim 33 wherein the coin discriminator is configured to receive a plurality of coins from a user and count the coins to arrive at a total, and wherein the value indicated by the indicia printed on the substrate is related to the total.

35. (Previously Presented) The voucher of claim 33 wherein the coin discriminator is configured to receive a plurality of coins from a user and count the coins to arrive at a total, and wherein the value indicated by the indicia printed on the substrate is related to the total but is less than the total.

36. (Previously Presented) The voucher of claim 33 wherein the indicia printed on the substrate includes a bar code.

37. (Previously Presented) The voucher of claim 33 wherein the indicia printed on the substrate includes an encrypted form of the value for which the substrate is redeemable.

38. (Previously Presented) The voucher of claim 33 wherein the substrate includes thermal paper.

39. (Currently Amended) The voucher of claim 33 wherein the visible marks are is made with a marking medium that includes fluorescent ink.

40. (Previously Presented) A voucher for use with a coin discriminator, the voucher configured to assist in distinguishing unauthorized duplicate or counterfeit vouchers, the voucher comprising:

a substrate having at least first indicia, wherein the first indicia indicate a value of the voucher; and

a plurality of perforations formed in the substrate, wherein the plurality of perforations define a curved pattern; and

a visible mark placed on the substrate, wherein the visible mark has a first appearance on the substrate, but wherein a photocopy of the visible mark has a second appearance, different from the first appearance.

41. (Previously Presented) The voucher of claim 40, wherein the curved pattern includes a radius of curvature less than about 0.5 inch.

42. (Previously Presented) The voucher of claim 40 wherein the perforations include microperforations.

43. (Previously Presented) The voucher of claim 40 wherein the indicia includes a bar code.

44. (Previously Presented) The voucher of claim 40 wherein the indicia includes an encrypted form of the value.

45. (Withdrawn) A system for providing a redeemable voucher, the system comprising:

means for receiving a plurality of coins from a user;

means for counting the plurality of coins to arrive at a total;

means for placing visible marks on a substrate with a marking medium, wherein the visible marks have a first appearance on the substrate, but wherein a photocopy of the visible marks has a second appearance, different from the first appearance;

means for printing indicia on the substrate, wherein the indicia indicate a value related to the total of coins counted; and

means for dispensing the substrate to the user, wherein the substrate is redeemable for the value indicated by the printed indicia in exchange for at least one of cash and merchandise.

46. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 45 wherein the means for printing indicia on the substrate include means for printing indicia that indicate a value that is related to the total but is less than the total.

47. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 45 wherein the means for printing indicia on the substrate include means for printing a bar code on the substrate.

48. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 45 wherein the means for printing indicia on the substrate include means for printing an encrypted form of the value on the substrate.